

Words From the Spiritual Director by *Father Ray Brenner*

Dear Fourth Day Community,

In our diocese this is usually the time of changes in some personnel in parishes, whether lay, religious or ordained. Here at St. Joseph, Jasper, we get to see a number of the newly ordained or recently ordained come and go as we seem to be a training ground for these men. Their transition is also an adjustment for me. Sometimes by the time I get used to one personality, he moves on and the process starts over.

You also make many transitions in your life as well. In my family I have three older siblings and two younger who are retired. It makes you think more about the aging process and about life as persons your age and younger are retiring, or perhaps, dying.

I have known a number of people for whom the Cursillo weekend has been a great asset in helping them prepare for these transitions in life because of the sharing that goes on in grouping.

There are so many times people tell me I need to slow down. But there are two strikes against me. Part of it is my heritage and secondly, there is so much work to be done. And that's where I need to let God take over and depend on you as well. You and I are Church and together we do the work of God.

Enjoy your summer but remember there should be no vacation from serving God.

DeColores,
Father Ray

Regional News

The Cursillo Regional Meeting will be hosted by the Bellevue Diocese and held at the Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows. It will be held October 26-28, 2007. It starts with registration at 5 PM on Friday and the program will begin at 7 PM. It will end Sunday AM. The theme is "Our Lady is Calling" and the theme song will be "The Summons". The shrine is a beautiful place and a joy to visit. Place the date on your calendar and plan to attend. Our Lady is calling you. This is all the information available at this time.

The 2008 Regional Meeting will be hosted by the Evansville Diocese. Tentative dates are Oct. 24-26.

National News

The April National Newsletter is available on the National Website (www.natl-cursillo.org). It contains highlights of the upcoming 17th National Encounter in celebration of the 50th anniversary of Cursillo in the U.S. It will be held in Arlington, TX on June 29-July 2. There is also a good article on: Learning to Live the Message—A Journey through the Cursillo. Explore the Charism of Cursillo by taking a journey through the 15 talks of the Cursillo weekend.

The National Cursillo Movement gratefully welcomes your donations. Any financial support will help us sustain the Movement. Your contributions are tax deductible. Please mark your check as a donation and send it to the National Cursillo Center, P.O. Box 210226, Dallas, TX 75221. Thank you.

Words From the Lay Director by *Bruce Bonenberger*

"The disciples were filled with joy and the Holy Spirit". Acts 13:52

The disciples faced failures, rejections and other mistreatment as the Holy Spirit filled their hearts with love, joy and peace. They lived a life of service to the Church, supported by frequent acts of piety, and grew in holiness. Present day disciples face many of the same obstacles as we try to change situations in our environments and to bring others closer to Jesus. I was watching EWTN as Pope Benedict spoke to the youth of Brazil. He told them that "Jesus fills us with joy and His joy gives you strength". Joy is a fruit of the Holy Spirit; it is essential to the spiritual life and is one of the Foundational Charisms of the Cursillo Movement. If we lack joy, regardless of what we may think, say or do, we cannot bear fruit abundantly. That is why all Cursillo leaders, team members and those seeking to evangelize must be joyful.

Once a year the Cursillo Lay and Spiritual Directors of Region IV gather in the spring to share our Cursillo work within our dioceses. This year's Encounter was held in Little Rock and the theme was Love, Joy and Peace. We gathered in the joy of the Resurrection and in joyful thanksgiving for having been chosen as leaders in the Movement. When one keeps saying yes to Jesus it generates tremendous joy. Each of us was called to leadership, which is a great blessing but it also carries with it a tremendous responsibility. One day we will be called upon to give an accounting of our stewardship. It is impossible to estimate all the good the Movement has accomplished but we can rest assure that a great number of souls will owe their salvation to Cursillo. The joyous moments we experience during the Cursillo and in our fourth day are moments of consolation from God. Those close moments when we are aware of God's presence are a means for winning souls.

Cursillo Regional team members gave talks on the theme plus there was a workshop on "Active Listening". We gathered together to celebrate mass, prayer times and participated in small and whole group discussions. Noreen Ford talked about joy. She told us that joy is not the same as happiness. Happiness comes from pleasant worldly moments of our lives and is fleeting. If we try to find joy in material things, it eludes us. In our lives, all self-centered moments of happiness eventually pass and sometimes cause regrets. The joy of the Holy Spirit comes from our knowledge that we are loved by God and others. "When we discover the image of our own being and the love of God inside ourselves, we find an inexhaustible fountain of joy" (The First Conversations at Cala Figuera). To have the joy of the Holy Spirit is ultimately God's will for us. If we look for it in self-giving love then joy finds us. Joy and unselfishness are always linked.

There is joy in being assigned work for Jesus, if you say yes to the call. The Movement is always faced with obstacles but it is in the midst of difficulties that the Movement grows strong. Faithful Cursillo leaders perform the many good works that move the Movement forward. We possess love, joy and peace when we decide to welcome the Holy Spirit into our life. So with steadfast hearts, we re-dedicated our lives to Cursillo expecting to continue experiencing the fruits of the Holy Spirit: love, joy, peace.

Pre-Cursillo by Joe and Ruth Thompson

“Do you love me? Feed my sheep.” John 15:17

Jesus spoke these words to Peter. He is telling us the same thing today. He tells us that love and service are intertwined. If we love Jesus we have to prove it. We have to follow Jesus on the road of self-giving. We are called to feed Jesus' sheep. Feeding Jesus' sheep means loving. Loving means giving the sheep what is good, the nourishment of God's truth and word.

“Do you love me? Feed my sheep.” Just as Peter was called, we are called to bring Jesus to all we meet. How can you feed Jesus' sheep? You can start by making a friend, being a friend and bringing that friend to Christ. We need to keep on encouraging our friends to make a Cursillo weekend. Remember your weekend—the high you were on when you went home. You wanted to stay on that mountain-top, right there with Jesus. Now is the time to bring your friend to Christ by getting them to submit their applications to make a weekend, by you being their sponsor and committing to getting them into a friendship group. Remember:

**Christ has no hands but our hands to do His work today,
He has no feet but our feet to lead people His way.
He has no tongue but our tongue to tell people how He died,
He has no help but our help to bring people to His side.**

It is up to you and me to get our friends to make a Cursillo weekend. We still need applications for both men and women's weekends. The upcoming dates are October 11-14 for men and Nov. 1-4 for women.

We will have another Sponsor's Workshop on Saturday, Nov. 3rd in Celebration Hall. That's the Saturday of the Women's Cursillo. It will start at 7 PM followed by the 4th Day mass and candlelight. Come, learn and enjoy these 4th Day activities. We would also like to acknowledge Larry Martin who gave a wonderful witness talk on sponsoring at the last Sponsor's Workshop on March 24th.

We are Jesus' hands, feet and tongue, so go out and spread the word and bring your friend to Christ.

School of Leaders by Thomas Anslinger

School of Leaders...don't let this name scare you. There are no exams and no homework. Come on the first Tuesday of each month to hear an inspiring talk by a priest, deacon or religious person that will help us to grow in our knowledge of the Catholic faith or the Cursillo movement. The third Tuesday of each month meeting includes discussion of the Cursillo movement, both current and planned events.

Come, because the purpose of the School is to accelerate (give greater speed, power and impact to) the living of what is fundamental for being a Christian in each of its members as individuals, in the Cursillo movement as a whole and in the environments in which the members are situated.

Some recent talks have been:

June 4: The Sacrament of Penance—It's History and Evolution Since the Beginning of the Catholic Church by Father Ralph Shipp (the first part of Father's talk was May 1)

March 6: Deacon Tom Goebel spoke about “Purpose”

February 6: Father Jim Endress spoke about St. Francis Xavier

December 5, 2006: St. Joseph of the Holy Family by Deacon Mike Waninger

The meetings start at 7 PM and end by 9 PM at St. John Church in Daylight, IN. All Cursillistas are welcome at the School of Leaders meeting on the first and third Tuesdays of each month. We are looking forward to seeing some new faces at upcoming meetings.

Post-Cursillo by Nicholas and Judith Wolf

“Amen, I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything for which they are to pray, it shall be granted to them by my heavenly Father. For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them.” Matt 18: 19-20

As we prepared to write this article, Judy and I couldn't help but think of this scripture. And it was never more true than at the Cursillo Evangelization Workshop held this past April 14th. We know that Christ was in the midst of the 40 plus Cursillistas who came together to pray, share and become more formed in order to further God's kingdom. Prayers were answered; talks given by the team were excellent, the witnessing was current, and based on the group discussions, each participant was touched in some small way. We all left the workshop with a little better idea of what it means to be a disciple of Christ.

On behalf of the entire 4th Day at large, and those in attendance, we would like to recognize the CEW team who worked very hard on putting the workshop together and preparing their presentations. Special appreciation to the entire CEW team: Tony Fehrenbacher-Coordinator; Pete Hillenbrand-Moderator; Deacon Don Yochum-Spiritual Director; and speakers: Tom Bacurin, Denny Quinn, Kathy Weber and George Fleming. The CEW's are part of our Cursillo movement and part of the 4th Day. They very well may be like the fine pearls mentioned in Matt. 13:46: **“When he found one really valuable pearl, he went back and put up for sale all that he had and bought it.”** The CEW and other 4th Day activities can be personal treasures for each of us, however, we don't have to sell all that we have, we need only allow a few hours to grow in God's love through listening, sharing and discussion.

Judy and I encourage you to pencil in the Fall CEW, which will be held on Nov. 17th after the fall Cursillo weekends. And while you're at it, circle August 11th on your calendar. This is the date for the Grand Ultreya to be held at St. John's Daylight. Many of our individual Ultreyas will be working together to provide a wonderful reunion and encounter with others and with Jesus. We will celebrate 5:00 PM Mass with the St. John's community, and the Ultreya will begin at 6:30 PM. We will have a group reunion and a witness speaker and will finish off the evening with a light meal and fellowship. This is a great opportunity for the 4th Day, especially our new Cursillistas, to meet and share with the larger community.

Our friendship groups, Ultreyas, CEWs and 4th Day functions are all fine pearls because they are gifts from God and He wants us to seek them out and treasure them. Just think, there are almost always three or more at any one of these activities and Jesus promised He would be there, and if Jesus is going to there, then so should we! Come, join us and find your pearl!

Judy and I ask that you please keep the Cursillo mentoring program and the individual talk mentors in your prayers. All mentors are now hard at work preparing for the new weekend talks and their implementation this fall. Change can be difficult at times and we always depend on, and need, the help of the Holy Spirit.

Post Cursillo Notes

Grand Ultreya: Sat., Aug. 11th at St. John's Daylight.

Mass at 5:00 PM

Ultreya at 6:30 PM

Fall CEW: Cursillo Evangelization Workshop

Sat., Nov. 17th at St. John's Daylight

Friendship Groups: Weekly **Ultreyas:** Monthly

**“Behold My Servant Whom I Have Chosen”...Matt 12:18
Evansville Women’s Cursillo #72**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

The team and candidates of Women’s Cursillo #72 thank you all from the bottoms of our hearts for the outpouring of prayer, love and support that we received from you during the weekend. We were all overwhelmed by the number of priests who came to serve lunch on Friday, by the number of “Angels” in the chapel on Saturday, and by the crowd who came to hear the witnessing at closing on Sunday. We felt both blessed and humbled by the experience of so much love. We learned to develop a servant’s heart by experiencing the service you provided. Again, thank you!

Please continue to pray for the new Cursillistas as they journey into the 4th Day. Many have found groups or started groups. Please pray that they persevere through the summer when everything gets so busy. Encourage them to attend an Ultreya with you.

God sent the gift of the Holy Spirit to the weekend. Your efforts in prayer brought forth many blessings. We thank you for your continued prayer.

In Christ,
Mary Ann Wilsbacher

Welcome New Cursillistas

Alissa Maynard	Becky Weinzapfel	June Folz
Heather Hertel	Mary Kay Elpers	Imelda Heerdink
Dawn Durcholz	Ann Masnado-smith	Anna Matthews
Kim Sickman	Rena Schleter	Mary Ringwald
Donna Greenwood	Carol Webb	Karla Dehner
Kristi Wahl	Gail Coates	Angela Wallisch
Cathy Zimmerman	Judy Mattingly	Kathy Clark
Susan Sauls	Tracy Sparks	Ann McDonald
Stacy Ferrari	Bernette Locklar	Cheryl Thomas
Kelly Hale	Pat Davis	Marilyn Schmitt
Michele Donovan		

Upcoming Weekends

Men’s #68
October 11-14, 2007
Coordinator: Tom Folz
Asst. Coordinator: Ron Balbach

Women’s #73
November 1-4, 2007
Coordinator: Ruth Thompson

Grand Ultreya

Saturday, August 11

St. John’s Daylight

Mass at 5:00 PM

Ultreya: 6:30 PM

Reunion, Witness Talk, Food, Fellowship

Come and join the fun!!

A Letter from Cursillo founder: Eduardo Bonnin

This fall the Cursillo Movement in the Evansville diocese will start to implement the latest version of the Cursillo Manual. It is the second edition, printed March 2006 and it is the joyful proclamation of being Christian. It lists instructions, recommended schedules and practices during the weekend. There are new improved talk guidelines and key points to take into consideration when preparing a talk. It will serve as a faithful guide to return the Cursillo Movement to its original purpose of transforming a man first, by means of love and friendship, living what is fundamental for being Christian together with our fellow man and thus as a group transform the world, from savage to human and from human to divine. The first page of the Manual is a letter from the founder of Cursillo, Eduardo Bonnin, who lives in Spain. It is reprinted below.

“It gives me a great pleasure to congratulate the Cursillo Movement in the United States on their new edition of the Cursillo Manual which will be printed in English, Spanish and soon in Vietnamese. The USA has taken a decisive step toward the authenticity of our Cursillo Movement.

In returning to its original sources, while respecting the title of the original rollos, as established in Bishop Hervas’ Pastoral Letter, the candidates, upon living the experience of Cursillo, will not feel straight-jacketed by well intentioned programs, which take away the spontaneity and freshness of freely choosing the holy simplicity of what is Fundamental for being Christian—the axis of their living. (Editor’s note: Rollo is the Spanish name for a Cursillo talk where the message is delivered by the sharing of the speaker’s lived experiences. Bishop Hervas’ letter is titled “Cursillo in Christianity—Instrument of Christian Renewal”).

We have always thought that when one can understand the “what”, one’s life is complicated when one’s generosity is forcibly directed to continue a generalized and gregarious “how”, we make the world less beautiful.

The Movement of Cursillos in Christianity was thought up, prayed for and structured, in order to find a way to attract the far away, so that man’s liberty may encounter the Spirit of God, rather than a group of lackeys ready to do whatever they are told to do by the powers that be.

It is good and healthy to recall that what the Cursillos intend, and through the grace of God and the prayers of many, is to awaken the hunger for God among the baptized, and not to propose any other means of satiating it from among the many means that already exist in the Church.

With the desire and hope that the present Manual be for many a point of departure and not an end, I would like to communicate to the leaders, and in general to all Cursillistas, my most sincere congratulations. You can rely on an instrument that, employed as an orientation, is going to be a great help, so that the truth and the active and living knowledge of Christ, may reach the greatest possible number of people.”

Signed: Eduardo Bonnin

Secretariat Members

Spiritual Director	Fr. Ray Brenner
Lay Director	Bruce Bonenberger
Secretary	Pat Krack
Treasurer	Dennis Seib
Pre-Cursillo	Joe & Ruth Thompson
3-Day	Dan Zimmer
Post-Cursillo	Nick & Judy Wolf
Palanca	Al Debes
Procurement	Tom & Delores Folz
School of Leaders	Thomas Anslinger

Ultreya	Where	Day	Time
Holy Rosary	Evansville	1st Monday	6:00 p.m.
St. Joseph	Jasper	2nd Monday	7:00 p.m.
Holy Cross	Ft. Branch	3rd Tuesday	7:00 p.m.
St. Simon's	Washington	1st Monday	6:30 p.m.
St. John's	Newburgh	2nd Thursday	7:00 p.m.
Good Shepherd	Evansville	4th Thursday	7:00 p.m.
Resurrection	Evansville	Last Thursday	7:00 p.m.
St. Paul's	Tell City	1st Saturday	7:00 p.m.

School of Leaders

When: 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each Month
Where: St. John's, Daylight
Time: 7:00 PM CST/CDT

DEAR FOURTH DAY,

Please remember to notify us if your email address or mailing address has changed. Please send your updated address to dkegen@sigecom.net or mail to return address on this newsletter. Some email addresses have changed or are inactive and some mailing addresses were returned as undeliverable. Thank-you.